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VICTROLAS
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Temperature 76 Barometer 29.73
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The China Mail

ESTABLISHED 1845

THE DOLLAR.
To-day's closing rate 2/4 11/16
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Sole Agents:
ATKINSON & CO. (CHINA) LTD.
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1924. 1924. 五月廿三日 星期三 五月廿三日 星期三 五月廿三日 星期三 HONGKONG, FRIDAY MAY 23, 1924. 日十二月四年四十四百九千一英 PRICE: \$3.00 Per Month.



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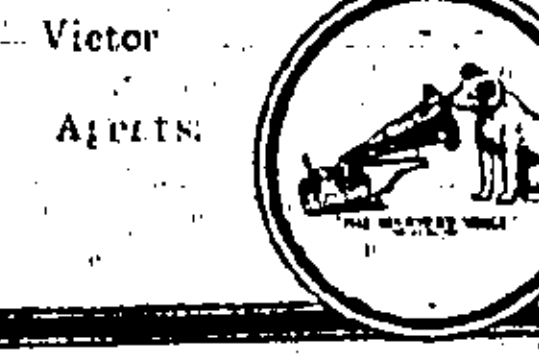
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GOVERNMENT'S UNEMPLOYMENT POLICY.

MR. SHAW ATTACKS PREDECESSORS.

"BLUNDERING INCOMPETENCE"

LONDON, May 22.
The unemployment policy of the Government was challenged in the House of Commons on the motion of Sir W. Joynson Hicks to reduce the salary of the Minister of Labour (Mr. Tom Shaw) by £100.
The Government warned the supporters of the urgency of the occasion.
The debate was begun by Mr. Shaw who in introducing the estimates of the Ministry of Labour in Committee of Supply fiercely attacked his predecessors' "Blundering incompetence, unequalled in our history," and praised Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's restoration of British prestige abroad and the stimulation of employment at home. Mr. Shaw's review of foreign policy to forecast the Government's schemes for an increase of national wealth and efficiency was made to the accompaniment of laughter and ironical cheers from Opposition benches and the Chairman intervened to remind Mr Shaw to keep to his subject.
Sir W. Joynson Hicks, in moving the resolution for reduction said that parts of Mr. Shaw's speech might have been made by the Foreign Secretary for Health, a Minister or the Chancellor but little by the Minister of Labour. Mr. Shaw had not told them of a single scheme to provide work for one man. The only explanations for the Government's unfulfilled election unemployment pledges were that they knew they could not fulfil them and alternatively had no ability to carry them out.
Canon C. A. G. Masterman, while expressing neutrality on behalf of Liberals said it was sheer nonsense to pretend that the Labour party were in any way responsible for the reduction of unemployment since they assumed office. Another Liberal, Mr. Macnamara, was an even less sympathetic critic.
Miss Margaret Bondfield was speaking when the debate was interrupted by private business.
The unemployment debate was concluded by the Conservative motion to apply the closure being defeated by the 244 to 210. Sir W. Joynson Hicks's motion was thereby talked out.—*Reuter.*

LIBERAL CAMPAIGN.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE LOOKS FORWARD.

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES.

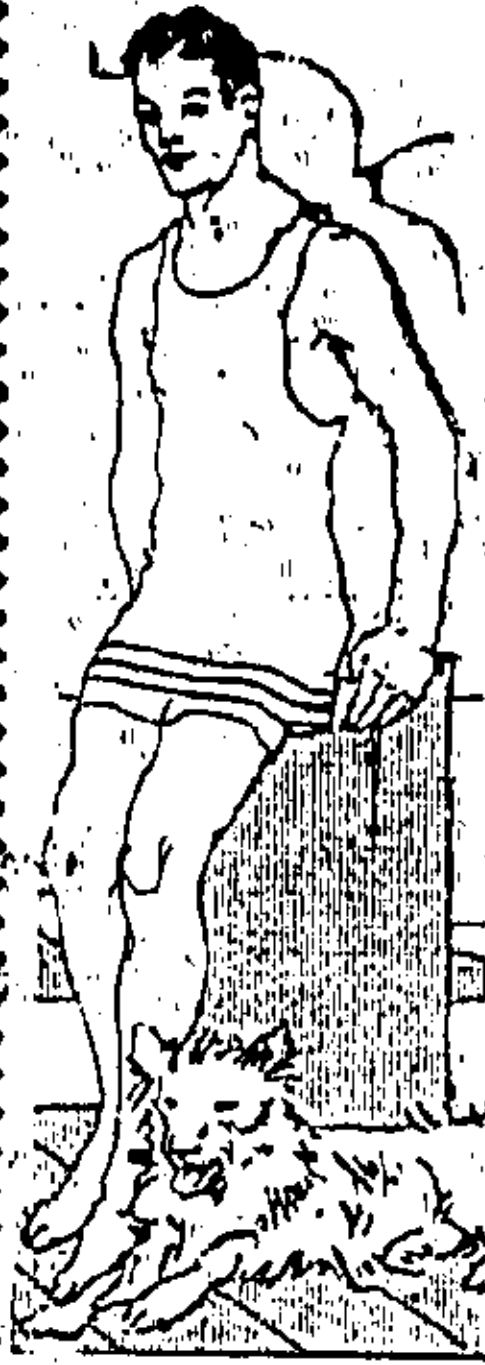
LONDON, May 22.
Mr. Lloyd George has started a great Liberal revival campaign and addressing the annual conference of the National Liberal Federation at Brighton to-day, he said that Europe and the world needed Liberalism. Replying to the taunt that the Liberal party was dead, he said that over four millions voted Liberal at the last election and there would be many more if the Tories proved as ineffective in opposition as they had been in office and if the Socialists continued to demonstrate that they were frightened of their job he looked forward to the day, not far distant, when Liberals would resume office.
Sir Donald MacLean was re-elected President of the Federation and Sir Robert Hudson who was re-elected treasurer, dwelt on the Federation's need of money and said that if the position was no better at the end of the year he must resign.—*Reuter.*

THE "DEATH RAY."

AIR MINISTRY IN TOUCH WITH INVENTOR.

LONDON, May 22.
In the House of Commons Mr. W. Leach, Under Secretary for Air, told questioners that his attention had been called to claims made for the invention known as the "death ray" and the Air Ministry was in touch with the inventor, Grindell Matthews but it was inadvisable at present to make a full statement on the matter. He could not answer the enquiry as to whether the invention was first offered to a British Government.—*Reuter.*

LATER.
Considerable significance is attached to Mr. Leach's reply because Grindell Matthews at present in France is being civilly welcomed at Lyons where a French company has placed a laboratory at his disposal. It is stated that they have offered to purchase all Matthews' inventions, including the death-ray which is reputed to kill persons, explode ammunition and disable an aeroplane motor at a distance of several miles and also to be a means of wirelessly controlling submarines which were successfully demonstrated during the War. "Matthews' journey to France provoked an outcry in the British press against allowing possibly valuable warlike inventions to go abroad.—*Reuter.*



Enjoy your swim
in one of our new
Bathing Suits

All styles and sizes to choose from.
Plain or with stripes in cotton, wool or mixtures and all silk.
Prices ranging from \$4.75.

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Men's Wear Specialists.
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FLETCHER'S PRICKLY HEAT LOTION
PRICKLY HEAT, HIVES, NETTLE RASH & SIMILAR SKIN TROUBLES
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COATES
PLYMOUTH GIN
THE NAVY'S CHOICE
CALDERBOK, MACGREGOR & CO., LTD.
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HONGKONG'S
POPULAR ICE CREAM PARLOUR
THE
BLUE BIRD.
COLD DRINKS
AND
ICE CREAM OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.
ALSO A VARIETY OF
PASCALL'S SWEETMEATS.
CORNER OF
QUEEN'S ROAD
AND
PEDDER STREET.

WESTINGHOUSE
ELECTRIC FANS

SOLD AT
THE WING ON CO., LTD.,
HONGKONG

MACLAREN DELAYED.

HOPES TO BE AT HONGKONG SOON.

Calcutta, May 22.
Reports from Akyab states that owing to adverse weather Squadron Leader MacLaren will not leave for Rangoon to-day.—*Reuter.*
[The Hongkong branch of the A.P.C. have received a cable from him despatched from Calcutta, in which he said he hoped to be in Haiphong on May 26 and in Hongkong on May 27 but they are very doubtful as to his being able to accomplish the journey by then.
All arrangements for the arrival of Squadron Leader MacLaren have been made and for these the Asiatic Petroleum Company should be thanked. The Company got into communication with the world flier and mailed to Haiphong full particulars regarding landing facilities and other material for his use.]

AMERICANS IN JAPAN.

6,575 MILES IN 90 HOURS.

Tokyo, May 22.
The American airmen left Minato at 12.30 p.m. to-day, and arrived at Kasumigaura at 5.40 p.m.—*Reuter.*
Later.
The American aviators between dawn and dusk covered 720 miles. The men and planes are in excellent condition although the fliers are weary and show signs of the strain of last week's battle with the elements. They are remaining at Kasumigaura probably a week for changing engines and overhauling. To-day's flight was made in good weather conditions although fogs were twice encountered. There was no serious stop since the start. 6,575 miles have so far been flown in 90 hours flying time.—*Reuter.*

SHELL OIL CORPORATION.

Washington, May 22.
The Shell Oil Corporation has sold the interest it possessed in one of its California holdings but has not relinquished all interests there.—*Reuter's American Service.*

MURDERS AT PEKING.

SENATOR'S FAMILY SHOT.

Peking, May 22.
Two Heilungkiang men, on Monday, visited the Peking residence of the Heilungkiang Senator, Tien Mei-feng, who was absent. The visitors called again yesterday, again finding Tien Mei-feng absent. The men thereupon forced an entry into the house and tied up and shot a man and killed a servant.
Tien Mei-feng's young daughter, on hearing the shot, came in and was shot dead.
Mrs. Tien Mei-feng, who appeared on the scene, was fired at, the bullet grazing her forehead.
Attracted by the noise, the police rushed in, upon which the two murderers turned their revolvers upon themselves.
One of the murderers died instantly, and the other is dangerously wounded.
Mrs. Tien Mei-feng and the would-be suicide were taken to hospital.—By courtesy of the *Daily Bulletin.*

GOVERNMENT VICTORY.

A LIVERPOOL ELECTION.

London, May 22.
The result of the West Toxteth (Liverpool) election has resulted in a win for Labour:
Gibbins (Labour) 15,505
White (Conservative) 13,034
Majority 2,471

Previously the seat was held by Sir Robert Houston, a Liverpool shipping magnate with an arresting personality. Sir Robert had risen from the ranks, and was an incisive speaker, with a command of appalling wit. The result of this election alters again the political map of Liverpool. Hitherto it returned members of a Conservative 'hue' with the exception of 'Tay Pay' O'Connor who represents the Scotland Division.

LADIES' GOLF.

MISS WETHERED CHAMPION.
London, May 22.
At Portrush in the ladies' golf final Miss Joyce Wethered beat Mrs. Cantley by 7 holes and 6 to 5.

INDIAN NATIONALISTS.

DIFFERENCE OF OPINION.

Bombay, May 22.
Some difference of Indian Nationalist opinion is revealed in statements following the conference between Gandhi and Nehru Das to decide the future attitude of 'Non-Co-operation'. Gandhi made a statement reiterating the opinion that entry into the Legislatures was inconsistent with Non-Co-operation but he would not be a party to putting obstacles in the way of the Swarajists. If he entered the Councils he would strengthen the constructive programme. Das Nehru in a counter statement, said he would defend the Obstruction policy but accept the suggestion with regard to a constructive programme, a definite economic policy and prevention of a drain of public wealth from India. He will consequently fill the elective posts and serve on every committee possible and if they find it impossible to resist bureaucracy without disobedience they will retire from the Legislatures and help to prepare the country for disobedience.—*Reuter.*

HOME CRICKET.

SOUTH AFRICAN TOUR.

London, May 22.
At Bristol, in unsettled weather, before three thousand spectators, and on a soft wicket, the South Africans scored 162 (Nourse 58; Parker 4 for 41).
When stumps were drawn Gloucestershire had made 79 for 8 wickets.

BASEBALL RESULT.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Pittsburg 8 New York 10
Cincinnati 7 Brooklyn 7
Chicago 8 Philadelphia 6
St. Louis 8 Boston 5
—*Reuter's American Service.*

Tokyo, May 21.—Following on the dismissal yesterday of 1,700 employees by the naval arsenal, the military arsenal to-day announces the discharge of 2,000 men "in accordance" with the retrenchment policy.

SENNET FRERES

JUST ARRIVED!

A NEW STOCK OF BEAUTIFUL

FRENCH
JEWELLERY

NOW ON VIEW AT OUR

NEW PREMISES IN

PEDDER STREET

(OPPOSITE HONGKONG HOTEL)

"WHITEWAYS"



THE LATEST IN
GOLF HOSE

AS SEASONABLE AS THEY
ARE REASONABLE

"STUDY COMFORT AND ECONOMY"

JUST ARRIVED A CONSIGNMENT OF IDEAL SUMMER GOLF HOSE IN EXCLUSIVE MARL MIXTURES MADE FROM ARTIFICIAL SILK AND LISLE THREAD. THIS

COMBINATION MAKES AN IDEAL LIGHT WEIGHT HOSE, AND VERY DURABLE. EXCELLENT SHADES OF LIGHT GREY, STEEL, AND FAWN.

PRICES \$5.00 PAIR.

WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.

LAMBERT BROS.

AUCTIONEERS, APPRAISERS
AND SURVEYORS.
Public Auctions

THE Undersigned have received instructions from the Public Auctioneers.

on
TUESDAY, May 27, 1924,
commencing at 2.45 p.m.

at No. 5, Ainal Villa, Kimberley Road,
Kowloon

A Quantity of Valuable Household Furniture

Comprising—

Teak Hat Stand, Chesterfield Couch and Chair, Overmantel, Teak Extension Dining Table, Teak Chair, Sideboard, Glass Cabinet, Ice Chest, Carpet, Curtains, Glassware, Crockery, Brass Ornaments, Water Colour, Pictures, etc., etc.

Double and Single Teak Bedsteads, Iron Bedsteads, Teak Wardrobe with Glass Door, Teak Chest of Drawers, Dressing Table, Wash Stand, Table, etc., etc.

Also

One Cottage Piano (New) by Montreux

One American Oil Cooking Stove (New)

One Complete Set of The Encyclopedia Britannica 11th Edition (29 Volumes)

Catalogue will be issued.

On View from Monday the 25th May, 1924.

Terms—Cash on delivery.

LAMBERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

on
WEDNESDAY, 11th June, 1924

commencing at 3 o'clock p.m.

at the premises of the Hongkong Tramway Co., Ltd., Bowrington Canal Road East

The Steam Driven Electric Generating Plant

Consisting of—

Boilers

Two Babcock and Wilcox Boilers (complete) each having approximately 3,000 square feet of heating surface, guaranteed to evaporate under normal conditions 12,000 lbs. of water per hour.

Working pressure 160 lbs. per square inch.

Both Boilers fitted with chain grate stokers.

Engines

Two 428 B.H.P. Horizontal Compound condensing steam engines by Messrs. Yates & Thom of Blackburn, coupled direct to two 300 Kilowatt Direct Current Dick Kerr Generators.

Volts 550, R.P.M. 150.

Complete with piping, etc., etc.

One 150 B.H.P. Vertical Compound condensing steam engine, by Messrs. Ballis & Moreau Ltd. coupled direct to one 200 Kilowatt Direct Current Dick Kerr Generator.

Volts 550, R.P.M. 250.

Complete with steam piping, etc., etc.

Auxiliary Plant

One W. & A. Allen Tandem Compound engine, coupled direct to a 20 Kilowatt Direct Current Dick Kerr Generator.

Volts 110, R.P.M. 500.

One Dick Kerr Motor Generator Set, Motor 550 Volts, Generator 110 Volts, R.P.M. 500.

One Remington two cylinder crude oil engine, direct coupled to a 15 Kilowatt Direct Current Chandeyson Generator.

Volts 125, R.P.M. 400.

Switchboard

Switchboard of highly polished plate completely fitted up for running Generators and Auxiliary Plant.

Catalogue will be issued.

For further particulars apply to the Undersigned.

LAMBERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Apr. 10, 1924.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

Level and Storage of water in reservoirs on the 1st May 1924.

City and Hill District Water Works

LEVEL.

1923. 1924.

Spring Flow Below 311.00. Below overlow 311.00.

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C. E. WARREN & CO., LTD.

ANTHROPOMETRIC ENGINEERS
MONUMENTALISTS
Office and Godown,
No. 10, Wyndham Street,
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ALL KINDS OF BUILDING REPAIRS
IN BRICK

ROOF, VENT AND RAINWATER FROM
FLOOR & WALL TILES—BATHS, BATHS.

PAINT ROOM FIVE—WALLS & CEILING
FOR GAS, OIL OR COAL FURN.

NEW CHIMNEYS
OVER AND CLOSED GRATES—COOKING
RANGES.

REPAIRS FREE FOR ALL BUILDING
INSTALLATIONS.

HON. WARDEN STREET, 22.

GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTORS

REPAIRS IN MONUMENTAL WORK
ON IN ITALIAN MARBLE ON
HONGKONG GRAVES.

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ARRIVALS OF ITALIAN MARBLE FLOOR TILES
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WATCH YOUR

CAPSTAN

NOTICE THE ABSENCE OF SPLUTTER.

THE SLOW BURNING

WHAT A DELIGHTFULLY

COOL SMOKE IT IS.



MANUFACTURED

IN

ENGLAND

SOLD

EVERYWHERE

ODDS AND ENDS.

MAINLY SCISSORS LOOT.

Should Dresses Be Criticised?

Madame Colette, one of the foremost writers in France, recently deplored that women's dresses were not subjected to criticism in the same way as plays and pictures. This view suggested the question as to whether the robes as turned out by Paris dressmakers was a work of art and therefore open to criticism. In order to obtain a reply to this question it was necessary to get the views of the dressmakers themselves. This has been done. Without exception they agree that the robe is a work of art and that it can be criticised like any other thing that is submitted to the public for its approval, only there are decided opinions as to the qualifications of the persons to whom this criticism is entrusted. They insist that the work should be done in good faith and that there should be nothing in the criticism calculated to harm their trade, for, after all, they are business people as well as artists. In their view the critic of robes should be a person of tried taste, of undoubted authority. One couturier has doubts as to whether any good would come of criticising robes. The argument he puts forward is—One cannot be ignored. The dressmakers work for women, he says, and after all, they have their personal impressions and have an idea of what suits them. Another dressmaker takes an entirely different view. He would welcome free criticism of his models, and would not mind if the critic wrote "The robes of are extremely ugly this year." This would not amuse him, but it would not make him withdraw his advertising contracts. If his dresses were adversely criticised he would insist on his right to reply to the critic and at so much per line. A lady who is at the head of a big dressmaking establishment is so keen about robes being criticised that she goes the length of suggesting that the couturiers should decide not to give advertisements to those newspapers which did not make a feature of dress criticism. An Arab Don Juan.

Mohamed Ben Ahmed, an Arab Don Juan, has fallen upon evil days through trying to introduce the dashin methods of lizards of other times into the respectable Paris suburb of Argenteuil. In February last year Mohamed fell in love with Madame Bolle, of Argenteuil, but the fact that her husband was still alive placed an obstacle in the path of his affections. He therefore resolved on the picturesque, downright methods adopted by his ancestors and other lovers of more adventurous days. One morning, when the husband had left home, Mohamed called his either to follow him to be shot. On being repulsed he fired and wounded her. Early next morning he was aroused from his bed by

the police, who forced their way into his house, but he opened such a hot fire upon them at his bedroom door that they held back long enough for him to escape by way of the window, running the gauntlet of fire from the other police below. He then took to a neighbouring wood, where, in spite of police guards posted all round it and searches carried out with hounds, he evaded capture. He even succeeded in stealing out of the wood by night and returning with victuals stolen from the town, but on one day saw him.

After he had been besieged in the wood for three days he again eluded the police's search and secreted himself in the Bolles' house while the owners were out, with the intention of avenging what he considered the slight that had been put upon him, and perhaps making his loved one a widow. When the Bolles returned the Arab fired upon them from his hiding place in a dark corner, wounding the husband this time, but he was back in the wood again before the alarm was raised. For some days the police, who searched the wood were occasionally fired upon, but they never saw Mohamed. It was only after months of searching all over France that he was traced to Brussels. His own story of the affair is that he fired each time through fright. The people of Argenteuil, he said, took him for a dangerous bandit, and were making war upon him. His heart, apparently, still beats for Madame Bolle, for when the Alexander of the witness stand he broke down and wept copiously into a large multi-colored handkerchief, until the voice of the judge sentencing him to five years' imprisonment banished the lover's despair for sterner sentiments.

A Korean Literature.

"A kind friend sends us the following, copied literature from a letter written by a Korean youth to a lady in Honolulu, says the Atlantic Monthly:

Dear Mrs. P—

It is with faltering penmanship that I communicate with you, about the prospective condition of our house-ree Sarah.

For remote time past, secret passion has been firing my bosom internally with loving your girl Sarah. I have travelled all the channels in the magnitude of my extensive jurisdiction, cruelly to smother the growing love knot that is being constructed within my inside.

But the timid lamp of my affection, trimmed by Cupid's productive hands, still nourishes my lovesick breast. Needless would it be for me to numerically extemporize the great conflagration that has generated in my head and heart.

During the reign of nightness my intellectually cranium has been entangled in thoughtful attitude of my beloved consort. Nocturnal slumberlessness has been the infinity which has beset my now-generated condition.

My educational abilities have abandoned and now clinging to those lovely stresses of your much coveted girl, like a mariner shipwrecked on the rocks of love.

As to my scholastic caliber, I was ejected from the Honolulu school. I am now masticating and will make a motion as soon as I perceive the business of life a little laxly.

I am of lofty and original lineage and independent income, and hoping that having debated, proposition in your girl's mind, you will concur daintily corroborated in espousing Sarah progeny to my tender bosom, and thereby acquiring me into your friendship circle.

As your faithful,

JOHN ALI GIN.

The Musician's Aisle.

Westminster Abbey, where the late Sir Charles Stanford was laid to rest last week, is the burial place of the first great English composer, Henry Purcell, who died in 1695 (says the Morning Post). He was the organist of the Abbey when only twenty-two years of age, and lies in the Musicians' Aisle (the north aisle of the choir). Other musicians who are buried or commemorated in the aisle are John Blow, master of Purcell and Croft, Michael William Balfe, Dr. Charles Burney, and Sir William Sterndale Bennett.

A Familiar Prayer.

No form of prayer is more familiar than the childish quatrain, known in the popular hymnology of nearly every country. Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep. If I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take. The origin of this verse has been the source of much curious literary speculation. Bartlett, in his early editions of "Familiar Quotations" ascribed it to the "New England Primer." Watts has often been suggested as the author of it, but William S. Walsh, in his "Book of Literary Curiosities" states that Watts's hymn of two verses is merely a paraphrase of a medieval Latin hymn which was known as the "White Paternoster" of which the familiar quatrain of modern days is a surviving fragment. A translation of the "White Paternoster" is given in Ady's "Candle in the Dark," a book printed in 1655, in the following form:

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

Bless the bed that I lie on

And blessed guardian angel keep

Me safe from danger while I sleep

I lay me down to rest me

And pray the Lord to bless me;

If I should sleep, no more to wake.

I pray the Lord my soul to take.

The "White Paternoster," dating back to the Middle Ages, was probably taught to the children as an easily remembered form of prayer, suitable for the nursery, and so, course of time it became crystallized in the more simple form to which it is now remembered.

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Every Room with Private Bath.

Lounge Bar & Billiard Rooms. Unrivalled Cuisine under

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE.

ANNUAL MEETING.

DIFFICULTIES OVERCOME.

Mr. B. D. F. Beith presided at the annual meeting this morning. There were also present Messrs. H. P. White, A. S. Gubbay, T. E. Pearce (directors), F. C. Hall (Secretary) and the following shareholders: Hon. Chau Siu-ki, L. S. Greenhill, G. H. Percy, Ho Leung, Felix Ellis, S. E. Ellis, Ho Fook, J. M. Alves, D. V. Stevenson, Lo Cheung-shu, Lu Man-hin, Chiu Silu nam, A. H. M. da Silva, Lo Cheung-lop, J. F. Wright and W. L. Leask.

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The Chairman said:—The Account for the year 1933, has proved quite a satisfactory one and this in spite of the continuance of bad trade, low rates and ever increasing competition. Again, however, this year we show a very considerable decrease in premium income, that for the year now under review being \$3,303,424.81 as compared with \$4,033,849.08 for the year 1932. This continued falling off in income is a disturbing factor and one that is exercising the minds of your General Agents and Consulting Committee. It is a comparatively simple matter to obtain business but where and how to acquire business of a remunerative nature is an entirely different proposition. We are not alone in this respect as the reports of practically all Marine Insurance Companies show that their incomes are now back to a pre-war level, if not rather worse.

In this connection, it may not be out of place for me to quote to you an extract from an able article on the matter of marine rates that recently appeared in one of our leading shipping journals:—

"With regard to the important question of premium it may be said that, broadly speaking, the conditions which prevailed in 1921 and 1922 continued during the whole of the past year, and rates, whenever altered, have without exception tended downwards, and at the moment of writing have attained a figure below which a prudent underwriter will abstain from venturing. It is the near future losses and casualties occur, with the same frequency (in proportion to the bulk at risk) as they did in years immediately preceding the war, underwriters will, I fear, discover that they have been providing insurance considerably below cost price."

Although there is no cause for pessimism, I think you will appreciate from what I have just said that we have our troubles and difficulties like everyone else in these lean times.

Although the Accounts show a decrease in premium income and interest for the year 1933 of \$730,424.27 and \$251,228 respectively, it will be seen that the result after 24 months' working is some \$15,000 better than that for the year 1932, the reason for this being the much improved loss ratio of 54.99% as compared with 63.54%.

Working Account for the year 1933 after 12 months' working also shows a fall in premium income of approximately \$450,000 and the balance of \$2,120,923.93 carried forward is consequently less by \$231,451.78 than that for the year 1932 at the same period. This account has yet far to go, but we see no present reason to fear that the ultimate result will be otherwise than well up to the standard of its predecessors.

Our Assets, as expressed in Sterling, stand at a higher figure by £82,000 than a year ago and, as expressed in local currency, they show an increase of over \$285,000. The satisfactory state of the various Reserves at 31st December 1933 has been more than maintained.

The surplus to be dealt with is \$1,368,315.45 out of which has been paid an interim dividend of \$18 per share. We now recommend the payment of a final dividend of \$22, the addition of \$25,000 to Sterling Reserve Fund, of \$250,000 to Reinsurance Fund and the carrying of the balance of \$503,072.81 to Underwriting Suspense Account to close the year 1933. The balance of \$2,120,923.63 at credit of 1933 Account allows of the payment of the usual Interim Dividend of \$18 for that year.

During the past year losses have been below the normal and there have been none of outstanding magnitude. This does not, of course, include the Earthquake in Japan of last September, or the Typhoon of exceptional violence which visited Hongkong on the 18th August. Although seven months have elapsed since the last disaster occurred, the sum of loss is yet far from complete owing to the enormous task of ascertaining the relative liability attaching to fire and marine insurance. In these two calamities, our losses, though naturally considerable, were no more than we might reasonably expect and much less than we at first anticipated.

I do not think there is anything further that calls for special reference, but I shall be pleased to

MERCHANT'S DILEMMA.

ARRESTED WITH BAD COINS ON HIM.

ON WAY TO SHANGHAI.

Li Chai-wo, described as the managing director of the Min Fat silk store in Canton, was discharged by Mr. E. W. Hamilton at the Kowloon Magistracy this morning when brought up on a charge of being in possession of 78 counterfeit coins—twenty cent pieces of Canton currency.

Prosecuting for the Police, Sub-inspector Spear applied for permission to amend the charge, the original charge stating that 99 counterfeit coins were found on defendant but 21 had been proved to be good.

Defendant, continued the inspector, was arrested on board the s.s. "Kwong Lee" on which he was a passenger from Canton to Shanghai. The coins were found in a parcel in defendant's trunk and when examined by a money-lender, were declared to be of zinc and copper.

A Chinese detective told the Court he found the coins while searching the ship for arms. Representing the defendant, Mr. Armstrong said his client pleaded guilty of being in possession of the coins, but he had an excuse. He was a silk merchant in Canton and dealt with a firm in Shanghai. Last year the defendant shipped goods to Shanghai and received payment for them in twenty-cent pieces. Ninety-nine of these coins appeared to defendant to be bad and as it was the custom for the Shanghai firm to send down and change them, defendant decided he would take them to Shanghai himself. It was while on the journey to Shanghai on the "Kwong Lee" that he was arrested.

Giving evidence, defendant bore out his solicitor's statement and added that the coins were sent down by the Shanghai firm through a seaman on the "Kwong Lee." He was discharged and the 21 good coins handed back to him.

answer, to the best of my ability, any questions arising out of the Accounts which shareholders may wish to put, after the Accounts themselves have been duly seconded.

I now propose the following resolution:—

"That the Report and Accounts, as presented, including the payment of a final dividend in respect of the year 1932 of \$22 per share, and an interim dividend in respect of the year 1933 of \$18 per share; the addition of \$25,000 to Sterling Reserve Fund, of \$250,000 to Reinsurance Fund and \$503,072.81 to Underwriting Suspense Account be adopted and passed."

Mr. Ho Hook seconded and the accounts and balance sheet were passed unanimously.

Other Business.

The following were re-elected as the Consulting Committee on the proposition of the Hon. Mr. Chau Siu-ki, seconded by Mr. Lo Cheung-shu:—

The Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., A. H. Compton, Esq., A. S. Gubbay, Esq., Sir Robert Ho Tung, H. Humphreys, Esq., T. E. Pearce, Esq., H. P. White, Esq., and the Chairman.

Messrs. A. R. Lowe and J. Hennessey, Seth were re-elected auditors at a remuneration of \$750 each on the proposition of Mr. L. S. Greenhill, seconded by Mr. D. V. Stevenson.



On enquiry at Government House, the China Mail was informed that His Excellency the Governor is going on satisfactorily. It is hoped that His Excellency will be able to attend to business on Monday or Tuesday next.

RACE COURSE.

WATER UP TO THE RAILS

TO-MORROW'S RACING PROSPECTS.

With the change in the weather this morning it is generally hoped that to-morrow's Empire Day race meeting under the auspices of the Jockey Club will not have to be postponed.

At the height of yesterday's rainstorm water was running, so we are informed, level with the top of the rails on the outside racing course. Nevertheless with their usual hardihood the China ponies were taken out for winding up gallops this morning, the work being confined to the inner (sand) track.

In town rumours got going that the Jockey Club might call the meeting off. One factor which lent colour to this report was the amount of water standing on the course this morning and the fact that a lot of mud had been carried on the racing track. The latter, we learn, is due to a drain in the cemetery being choked, the mud thus being diverted on to the course as was the case last year.

Up to this time no decision had been made but the prospects were good. The mud was being cleared and was not likely to prove an obstacle. Water was still standing on parts of the course but was going down visibly. Except for the turn between the three-quarter mile and five furlong posts, there was no part which had become a swamp. It was also stated that some of the club's stewards were to visit the course during the afternoon to-day and that a meeting would be held afterwards. The China Mail has been informed that if it is found impossible to hold the races, an "express" would be circulated to-morrow morning.

From another source we learn that the Jockey Club was going to hold the meeting and some of the owners were going to get their candidates re-shod.

Tips For The Races.

(BY "PATROL".)

At the time of writing, even owners and trainers do not know which races their mounts will be started in. The weather had done its level best to upset the final training arrangements and it has all but entirely succeeded. There is a prospect that if the sun keeps shining the grass course may yet have recovered to that extent when the going will not be nearly as heavy as anticipated yesterday. On the other hand, it is difficult to reconcile the hope that the turf will not cup up, with this week's abnormal showers.

Taking all aspects into consideration, my selections are as follows:—

First Race, "B" Class, six furlongs:—1 King Alfred; 2 Gaudie; 3 Langsat.

Second Race, Colonial Stakes, five furlongs:—1 Golden Jubilee; 2 Uncle George, a place.

Third Race, "A" Class, six furlongs:—1 Edenhall; 2 Benz.

Fourth Race, Aggregate Snakes, one mile:—1 Fern Leaf; 2 Rothsay; 3 Valiant Dahlia.

Fifth Race, Selling Plate, one mile:—1 White Rose.

Sixth Race, "B" Class, 1 1/4 miles:—1 King Alfred.

Seventh Race, "A" Class, 1 1/4 miles:—1 Kupa; 2 Spotted Sand; 3 Grey Dragon.

Eighth Race, Match, 1 1/4 miles:—1 Loch Rannoch.

WILLIAM POWELL LTD.

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN SALES.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

Mr. F. M. Crawford presided at the annual meeting this morning, and there were also present: Messrs. M. Manuk, W. A. Eustace, H. L. Holt and the following shareholders: S. J. Jordain, E. J. Ainslie, A. W. Avenall and H. Overy.

Chairman's Speech.

The Chairman said:—The profit for the year ending 29th February, 1934, including the amount of \$6,988.09 brought forward from last year, amounts to \$62,236.53, and this year Directors have allocated as follows:—

To pay a Dividend of \$2 per share on 21,000 shares fully paid up, \$42,000.00

To place to Equalization of Dividend Account 5,000.00

To write off Fixtures and Fittings 1,605.39

To pay a Bonus to Staff of 10 per cent, absorbing 7,324.00

To carry forward to credit of next account, 6,306.99 which your Directors hope will meet with your approval.

During the year under review your Directors were fortunate in being able to acquire the site and building which we now occupy, at what they considered a reasonable figure, thus assuring us a permanent home which, you will all agree, is a very desirable asset, especially to a retail firm such as ours.

Turning to the accounts you will see that against this asset there stands at mortgage \$858,000.00.

This mortgage, however, has now been very considerably reduced by the new issue of capital, which was authorised by your Directors, and made on 1st March 1934.

The stocks of the Company are held absolutely clean and have, in every case where necessary, been reduced to replacement cost.

The substantial increase in cash sales shown in our Men's Outfitting Department, has proved the wisdom of the removal to our present prominent situation next to the main entrance of the Hongkong Hotel. The rearrangement of the various departments in our Main Building has been very favourably commented upon, and we feel sure customers will appreciate the better service we can now offer them. By maintaining our present policy of giving the utmost value in all departments we look forward to a steady increase in business, which we trust will enable us to maintain the very satisfactory dividend which we have paid for years past.

Before concluding, I desire to thank the Managing Directors and Staff for their services during the past year, as it is largely due to their efforts that the results before you have been obtained, and I am confident that the bonus we propose to grant to the staff will meet with your approval.

I now beg to formally propose that the report and accounts as presented (including the appropriation recommended by the Directors) be adopted, and I shall be obliged if some shareholder will kindly second this proposal whereupon questions as to the report and accounts may be raised.

Mr. Jordain seconded the adoption of the report which was carried unanimously.

Other Business.

Mr. R. L. Bridger was re-elected director on the proposition of Mr. Ainslie, seconded by Mr. Overy.

Messrs. Percy Smith, Seth and Fleming were re-elected auditors at a remuneration of \$600 on the proposition of Mr. Jordain, seconded by Mr. Avenall.

CANTON PARS.

GENERAL ASSUMES OFFICE.

DR. SUN TO RECUPERATE?

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

CANTON, May 22.

To-day General Hsu Shung-chi formally accepted office as commander-in-chief of the Cantonese forces in Kwangtung province. Representatives of the various armies, merchants, students and other influential bodies were present and General Hsu publicly professed his unswerving loyalty to Generalissimo Sun Yat-sen. He stated that his object would be to unite the Cantonese for the benefit of their home province.

Civil Governor Yang Shi-kum is reported as having asked for leave to proceed to Shanghai but it is not known if his request has been acceded to.

Some of the vernacular papers report the likelihood of Dr. Sun Yat-sen proceeding to the White Cloud Mountains for a brief stay to recuperate.

HONG KONG FLOODS.

TWO LANDSLIDES REPORTED.

QUEEN'S ROAD SHOPS DAMAGED.

During the twenty-four hours ended at 10.30 this morning, 5.81 inches of rain were recorded at the Observatory in Kowloon. The highest figure for one hour is 1.74 for the hour between 12.30 and 1.30 yesterday.

Fortunately the heavy fall of rain has not been attended by any fatality. At 8 this morning there was a landslide at that part of Bowen Road near Magazine Gap and the highway was obstructed for a time. Copies from the P. W. D. got to work at once and the debris was cleared without much trouble.

It is also learnt that a landslide occurred in the vicinity of Tai Hang village, Causeway Bay, yesterday afternoon, but this was not serious.

People coming in from the surrounding country state that it is too early to predict whether any damage has been done to crops but they expressed the opinion that coming at this time of the year, the rice fields would welcome the rain. At any rate, a highly satisfactory crop was now anticipated.

Afteriffin in Queen's Road Central opposite the Queen's Theatre yesterday, shopkeepers were busy preventing an accumulation of water entering their premises. Some of them had profited by the experience of last summer's deluge and had made preparations accordingly. Most of them attribute to the swamping of that part of Queen's Road to the alterations in the road level and the narrowing of the side channels.

Six inches of water entered the Tabacqueria Filipina but the staff succeeded in getting most of perishable goods out of the way and the damage was not more than \$200 or so. A two-foot board caulked up with wax saved the premises of Cheong Woo, jewellers. No water got in there but next door, at Messrs. W. Assomull's, a couple of inches or so got beyond the barriers. At Loong Shing, another jeweller, the water reached five inches but the stock had almost been completely removed by then. In the premises of the China Drawn Work Co., there were several inches of water standing. Here the raising of showcases to about eight inches above the floor level prevented any damage.

Chinatown Cataclysm. A visitor from Canton described a part of Queen's Road West, not far from the lower entrance to the Government Civil Hospital, as somewhat akin to parts of the West River of Canton in the early stages of a flood season. "Rapids," that was the term he used, were pouring down Hollywood Road into its junction with Queen's Road West and shooting up two or three feet high against the opposite pavement yesterday afternoon. One granite boulder of about three cubic feet was carried right down the incline to the side channel where it reposed against an electric standard. A crowd of streeturchins who tried to stand on it were continually washed off although they hung on to the standard.

There were at least six inches of water at the corner of Queen's Street and Queen's Road West and riches could only get round the turn with the greatest of difficulty. The Race Course which became a wilderness of mud after last year's deluge also came in for its share yesterday. Elsewhere in this issue is an article on the races, we give the account.

The golf course at Happy Valley is in a boggy state and it is doubtful whether it will be playable over the week-end. It needs many hours of strong sunshine before the course will even be in a tolerably dry condition.

CHOICE ENGLISH FRUIT.

(WHOLE)

IN THICK SYRUP

CHIVERS' BLACK CURRANTS	per tin	\$1.40
BLACKBERRIES	" "	.90
GOOSEBERRIES	" "	.95
RASPBERRIES	" "	1.55
STRAWBERRIES	" "	1.20
RED PLUMS	" "	1.00
VICTORIA PLUMS	" "	1.20
GREENGAGES	" "	1.00
DAMSONS	" "	.90

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INDIAN LOVE LYRICS

- 1664 { (1) THE TEMPLE BELLS ...
- (2) LESS THAN THE DUST ...
- 1665 { (3) THE KASHMIRI SONG ...
- (4) TILL I AWAKE ...

SUNG BY EDGAR COYLE, BARTONE.

PURE MUSIC—NO SCRATCH

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LAVENDER SCENTED AMMONIA

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GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LTD.

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General Managers.

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S.S. "NIPPON"Sails about 3rd June
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S.S. "DUCHESSA D'AOSTA"Sails about 7th June
S.S. "SILVIO PELLICO"Sails about 4th July
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LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP-Via Singapore, Colombo, Suez and Port Said.
ANDERSSON MARUSaturday, 31st May
RIODE JANEIRO, SANTO DOMINGO, SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, DUBLIN & COPELW. CANALIA MARUFriday, 6th June
BOMBAY-Via Singapore and Colombo
BURNBO MARU (Calls at Penang)Wednesday, 4th June
SUMAIRA MARUFriday, 20th June
BANGKOK-Via Singapore, SINGAPORE
KISHU MARUSunday, 1st June
CALCUTTA-Via Singapore and Bangkok
LNDU MARU (Calls at Penang)Monday, 26th May
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA & VANCOUVER-Via Shanghai and Japan Port.
AKIZONA MARUEnd of June
NEW YORK-Via Japan ports, San Francisco and Panama.AMUR MARUSunday, 26th May
KWAYO MARUSunday, 26th May
AMAKURA MARUSunday, 26th May
KAIJO MARUSunday, 1st June at Noon
KUIJO MARUThursday, 6th June at 10 a.m.
TAKAO and KEELUNG
BOHQ MARUMonday, 16th June.For further particulars please apply to:-
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, K. SHIMA, Manager.

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Estimates furnished on application.
Hongkong Adm. J. 181.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS AND PASSENGERS

COLLECTED DEPARTURES

SWATOW.

May 24-D. L. Halfoon.
25-D. N. Kwoyang.
26-D. N. Suiyang.
27-D. L. Haining.
28-D. N. Kwoyang.
29-D. N. Suiyang.
30-D. L. Haining.
31-D. N. Kwoyang.
June 1-D. N. Suiyang.
2-D. L. Haining.
3-D. N. Kwoyang.
4-D. N. Suiyang.
5-D. L. Haining.
6-D. N. Kwoyang.
7-D. N. Suiyang.
8-D. L. Haining.
9-D. N. Kwoyang.
10-D. N. Suiyang.
11-D. L. Haining.
12-D. N. Kwoyang.
13-D. N. Suiyang.
14-D. L. Haining.
15-D. N. Kwoyang.
16-D. N. Suiyang.
17-D. L. Haining.
18-D. N. Kwoyang.
19-D. N. Suiyang.
20-D. L. Haining.
21-D. N. Kwoyang.
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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE TOKYO EARTHQUAKE—
WHY?

[To the Editor of the China Mail.]
Sir,—I saw with interest that Mr. Copley Moyle had preached on this subject, and subsequently a number of letters appeared in the Press more or less condemnatory of the Almighty.
It seemed to me that one aspect of the case was completely ignored in all the letters I read and if you will grant me the space in your valuable columns, (never more valued than when read in the home land!) I will deal with the matter as briefly as may be.
Few are so grossly ignorant as to deny that Jesus Christ lived on earth. Tacitus, Suetonius, Pliny and Lucian, all refer to Him, while the date at the head of our newspaper A.D. 1924 is a silent witness to His existence. In Matt. xxiv. is recorded a conversation between Christ and His disciples; they ask Him "What shall be the sign of thy coming." He gives them eight signs, i.e.,

(1) A World wide war. (2) Great earthquakes in divers places. (3) Famines. (4) Pestilences. (5) Fearful sights and great signs—signs in the sun and the moon and the stars. (6) Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, till the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. (7) Upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity. (8) The return of the Jews to Palestine as a nation, under the symbol of the "fig-tree budding." Never before in the World's history have these eight signs occurred together. All are now coming to pass before our eyes.
The Tokyo earthquake is a fulfilment of prophecy, but it is only one of many. A few days ago the "Times" and "Morning Post" reported a larger earthquake than the Tokyo one, but stated the position was yet unknown, it was believed to be in the Pacific Ocean. Off the coast of Africa some months ago it was found that the sea bed had risen some three miles by a convulsion of nature, being only one mile deep, instead of four. We have had no less than half a dozen earthquakes in England in the last few weeks; who is man that he should question his Maker? The Tokyo earthquake happened to be the most destructive of life therefore it caused comment, the others were many of them just as great convulsions of nature.
(4) Pestilences: it is realised that while some 15,000,000 perished in the Great War, in four years, some 12,000,000 perished in four months in the great influenza epidemic of 1918?

The subject is an interesting one, but I must not trespass on your space. May I add however that the year 1934 measures to completion the mysterious period of "Seven Times" or 2520 years from the destruction of Jerusalem in B.C. 587 before which Christ is expected to return to earth to usher in the long wished for millennium which our Bolshevik friends tried somewhat vainly I fear to anticipate in their own way.

The whole subject is fascinating, but far too long to deal with satisfactorily in a newspaper article. I hope however I have offered one explanation of the Tokyo earthquake.

Yours faithfully,
C. G. S. BARONSFEATHER,
M.A., LL.B., M.D.

P.S.—I personally think the horrors of the Tokyo earthquake are much over-estimated; it is computed some 80,000 people die daily any way, and I personally would prefer to die in an earthquake, than of cancer.
Bournemouth, England,
April 22.

THE VICTORIA MEMORIAL.

[To the Editor of the China Mail.]
Sir,—To-morrow being the anniversary of the birth of her late Majesty Queen Victoria, the Good, it is but fitting that floral tributes be deposited at the foot of the Victoria Memorial at Statu Square.

WUCHOW WORRIED.
HEAVY SOTRM.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Between 4 and 5 p.m. on Sunday a very heavy storm of wind and rain broke over Wuchow. Several sampans were overturned and some lives were lost. At 3 a.m. on the 19th the river Fu, a tributary of the West River, came out in spite and for three or four hours the port of Wuchow was demoralised, River steamers having to leave their Pals and go over to the south bank and anchor. The steamer "Lee Lung" with a number of rafts alongside was dragged to such an extent as to endanger the Gunboat "Moth." She had to let go her rafts and drifted daily down the river to another anchorage. The river rose from twelve feet to twenty-one feet in three hours. On Tuesday morning the river had reached twenty-eight feet and then stopped rising. The river at Samshui was ten feet three inches at midnight on Wednesday.

COMMERCE AND FINANCE.

NAM PAK HONG MARKETS.

This morning's Nam Pak Hong quotations, basis usual guild terms, were as follows:—
Java sugar, average quality, per picul net:—Futures No. 24 rough white—July delivery \$10.73, August delivery 10.63, September delivery 10.53. "Spot"—No. 24 rough white 12.90, No. 24 fine white 15.10, No. 18 rough brown 12.85, Java brown 11.80.
Rice, average quality, per picul gross for net:—No. 1 Siam long white \$9.20, No. 1 Saigon long white 7.40.
Flour, per sack of 50 lbs:—Sperry's XXX \$3.46, White Greens 2.52, Nutmeg Orange 2.48, Kingfisher 2.82, Maize 2.42, Tiger Shield 2.90, Globe, 2.42, Old Mill 2.42, Reindeer 2.50, Melon 2.45, White Rose 2.42, C. & C. 2.56, Dayton 2.50, Banana 2.42, Kwai Tao 2.42, Blue Ribbon 2.40.

Such reverence has not been observed for very many years and during the last couple of years I have reminded the British people in this Crown Colony the importance of this observance and respect but the patriots of the nation are not found in this far distant outpost of the Motherland. During her late Majesty's long and glorious reign, the supremacy of England has been made and powerful as she is to-day, the people of the British nation should for ever have the thought of the good work done by the beloved ruler and memory of her must not be forgotten.

I am certain that in London to-morrow keen observance will be taken and a wealth of floral tributes will be laid at the Victoria Memorial, not only from the people of the Nation, alone, but her admirers of foreign nations will also deposit wreaths.
I shall pay my respectful homage to-morrow at the Square, and I am hoping to see other wreaths laid.

Yours etc.,
LOYALTY.
Hongkong, May 23.

COUNTY CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIP.

POSITION AS ON MAY 22.

County.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Wons. lts.	Lost lts.	Points.	Per cent.
Middlesex	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Yorkshire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Leicestershire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Surrey	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Gloucestershire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Somerset	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Sussex	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Warwickshire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Kent	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Worcestershire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Glamorganshire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Essex	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Derbyshire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Nottinghamshire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Hampshire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Northamptonshire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00
Gloucestershire	10	6	4	6	4	15	100.00

The following matches were abandoned—Surrey v. Yorkshire, and Notts v. Warwickshire. The following matches were not completed in the 1st innings—Northants v. Warwickshire, and Notts v. Sussex. These matches are not included in the above table.

OPIUM SMUGGLES.
REPORT BY IMPORTS
SUPERINTENDENT.

SYNDICATES DISPERSED.

FINES IMPOSED "NON-DETENTION."

That 284 persons were banished during the year for opium offences, that large quantities of Chinese documents relating to opium had been seized making it possible for powerful syndicates of smugglers to be dispersed but that the fines imposed for smuggling had in most cases proved non-deterrent, was reported at the Legislative Council yesterday in the weekly report of the Superintendent of Imports.

The report also stated that the gross revenue under the Opium Monopoly was \$5,759,448.58 as compared with \$5,561,305.35 in 1923. The price of prepared opium remained unchanged during the year. Sales maintained a steady level throughout the year notwithstanding the large amounts of Chinese raw opium which reached the Colony. This was due largely to the enterprising of Senior Revenue Officer Wat in conducting raids all over the Colony on illicit opium dens at all hours of the day and night. The record of his work for the year is as follows: Number of keepers of opium dens convicted 716, number of smokers of illicit opium convicted 3,350, number of dealers in illicit opium convicted 286, number of boilers of illicit opium convicted 60. Had another Officer been available for this work, a far larger number of convictions could have been obtained in the Kowloon Peninsula.

AMOUNT SMUGGLED.
The amount of Chinese raw opium mentioned in the documents examined amounted to over 300,000 taels smuggled into the Colony in a period of 12 months. To double this figure to account for those smuggled not discovered would give a fairly conservative estimate of the amount of opium mostly of Chinese origin which is successfully introduced into the Colony during 12 months. The documents examined go to show that not much more than a quarter of this contraband was retained in the Colony for local use. The amount of raw opium seized during the year was 281,821.17 taels in 250 seizures. The amount of prepared opium seized was 15,659.65 taels in 1,095 seizures, most of the seizures being of small amounts under one tael.

OPPIUM DIVANS.
Most of the seizures of prepared opium, continued the report, were made in opium divans, where a large part of the illicit opium used in the Colony is consumed. This was mostly composed of Chinese raw opium boiled in the Colony, in many cases on the premises of the divan keeper. Divan keepers are supplied daily with small quantities of illicit prepared or raw opium, generally not more than half a tael of prepared and up to six taels of raw opium at one time. Regular dealers send women and children to deliver the daily supply to the various divans. Many of the divans are managed by paid keepers, one man owning several places while the real owner keeps the background and is rarely caught. After a certain time a valuable goodwill attaches to a floor or cubicle which has become a popular divan, and though the divan has been raided and the keeper convicted and his opium smoking gear confiscated, it is not very long before the same place is in full operation again under a new keeper. In some instances, the tenant of the floor charges a regular fee each night for allowing one of the cubicles to be used as a divan, so that one man may run it for a few days and then someone else. In one case the same floor was found to be used as a divan no fewer than five times the keeper was convicted each time and in some cases went to prison, but the only thing which finally put an end to the use of this place as a divan was the demolition of the house. The use of children to act as managers of divans is increasing, it being impossible to punish children or punish their employers who would punish them for refusing to do so.

AN OPIUM SOCIETY.
An attempt was made by divan keepers in the Eastern district of the City to form a mutual protection society, but the project was discovered.

in time and steps were taken to prevent the formation of the society. According to information received the objects of the proposed society were to pay watchers and engage solicitors whenever a member was arrested, and to pay compensation to any member who was sent to prison and to set him in business again as soon as he was released by providing him with a new divan outfit. A fixed subscription was to be paid every month, and from the accumulated funds it was proposed to pay the fines imposed on any member. The originators of the scheme were Hui Kuei and it was reported that membership was intended to be restricted to Hakkas, who conduct most of the opium divans patronised by the working classes in the Eastern district.

REWARDS.

Under the heading of "Rewards" it is stated that the amount paid out as rewards in connection with opium and drugs including sundry expenses in connection with seizure was \$88,882. The largeness of this sum is due to the heavy seizures and to the intensified campaign against opium divans, as all information has to be paid for at a fairly high rate to encourage informers coming forward.

DRUGS.

YEAR'S SEIZURES IN COLONY.
According to the annual report of the Superintendent of Imports and Exports for last year, the seizures during the year were as under:

Morphine 5,253.1
Heroin 23,400
Cocaine 18

12 seizures were made and 3 persons were convicted, 2 being Japanese and 1 Chinese.

Heroin made its appearance for the first time, and has apparently rapidly become popular amongst Chinese. Germany has rapidly regained her supremacy in the manufacture of opium derivatives, the actual distribution of which appears to be still largely in the hands of Japanese or Formosan Japanese subjects. So far as could be ascertained all the drugs seized were intended for use outside the Colony. In the Colony there would appear to be a present little misuse of such drugs.

Canton has been taking drugs in small quantities and there is some indication that the trade there in drugs is reviving notwithstanding the facilities for the purchase of opium. Most of the morphine seized was intended for Amoy, most of the heroin for Japan. It is reported that the demand for heroin in Canton came from one source chiefly, the manufacture of a popular patent medicine.

Revenue Officer Ward did very good work in connection with drugs during the year.

A new Ordinance No. 22 of 1923 was passed based on the Home Legislation. The penalties are greatly increased and the import sale and use strictly regulated in accordance with the system in force in England.

LIQUOR CONSUMPTION.
The consumption of European Liquors shows a very slight increase on the whole compared with 1914.

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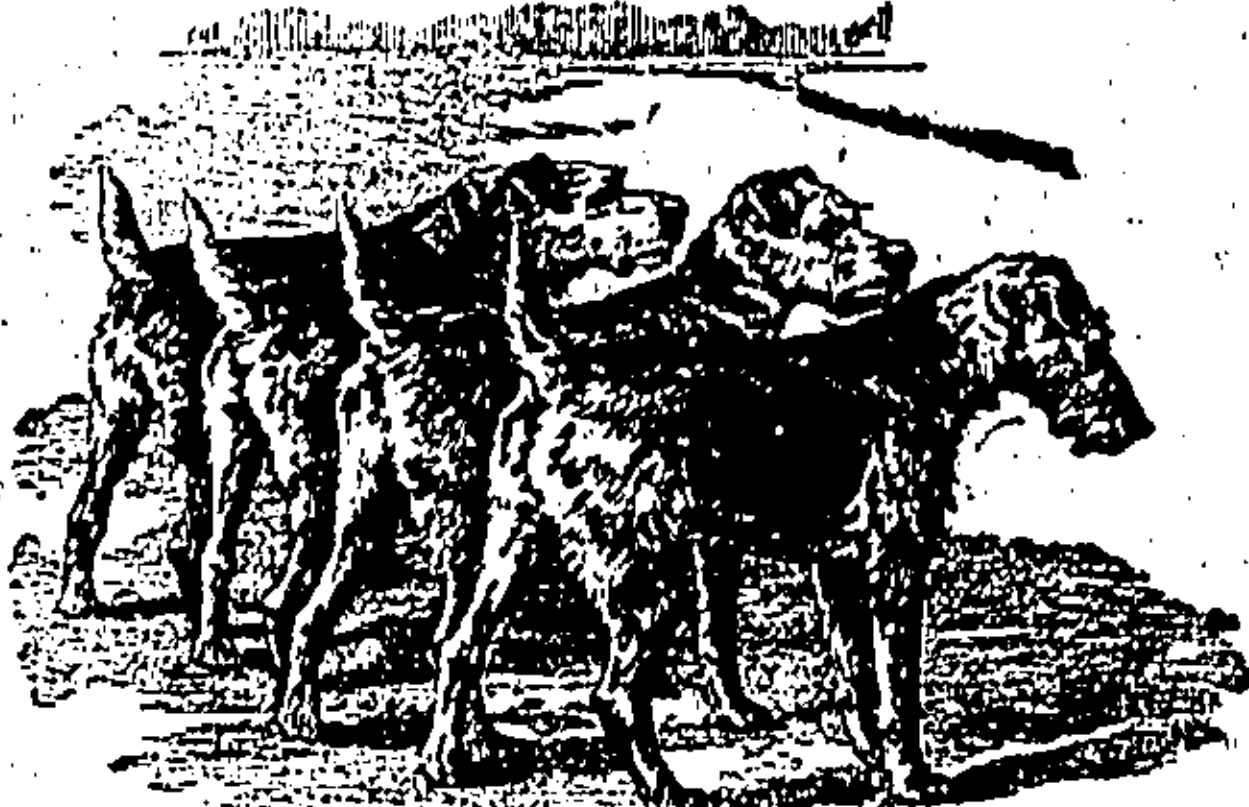
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Sir Bernard Pares, director of Slavonic Studies in the London University, King's College, who has been giving a series of lectures. He is known as the greatest living authority on Russian history.



THE PRESIDENT COOLIDGE HIGHBALL.

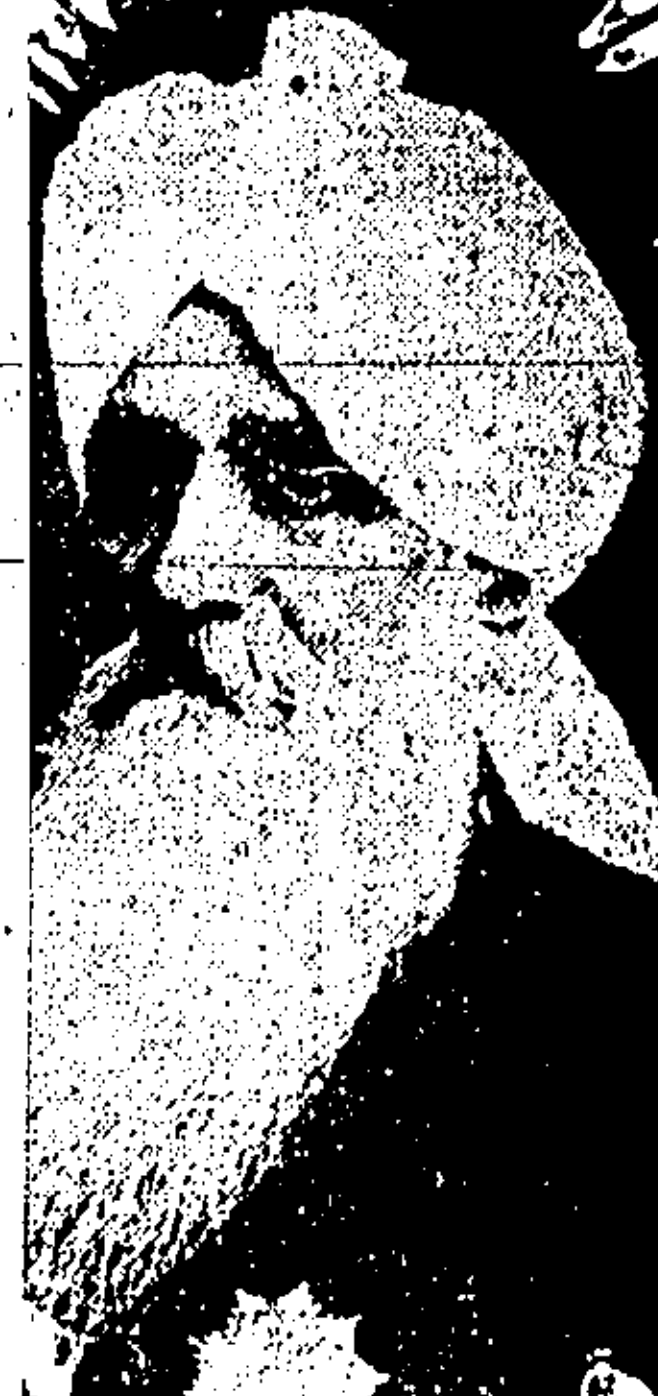
Opening of the American League baseball season in Washington. President Coolidge pitched the first ball for Washington against Philadelphia. If the umpire had called, it would most certainly have been "ball one." He was peremptorily retired and his substitute, Walter Johnson, won the game by 4 to 0. The President's ball was called a "highball" but it was decidedly not a drink as his right arm proves. Mrs. Coolidge is next to the President.



Two thousand delegates were present at the 33rd Convention of the "Daughters of the Revolution." In the picture Mrs. Anthony Wayne Cook, president, is shown in the centre, surrounded by her pages.



The group of Boy Scouts building the fastest model airplane will be awarded the trophy shown above together with \$1,000. This is "The Chrysalis of Flight" awarded by the National Aeronautics Association. Standing by the statue is the sculptor putting in the finishing touches.



Sir Prasham Kar Pattani, K.B.E., is of the old school who saw multitudinous benefit in following the King, and has been rewarded with citations and honours from the Government. He is at present Executive Member of the Council of India, and is one of the few great millionaires of India.

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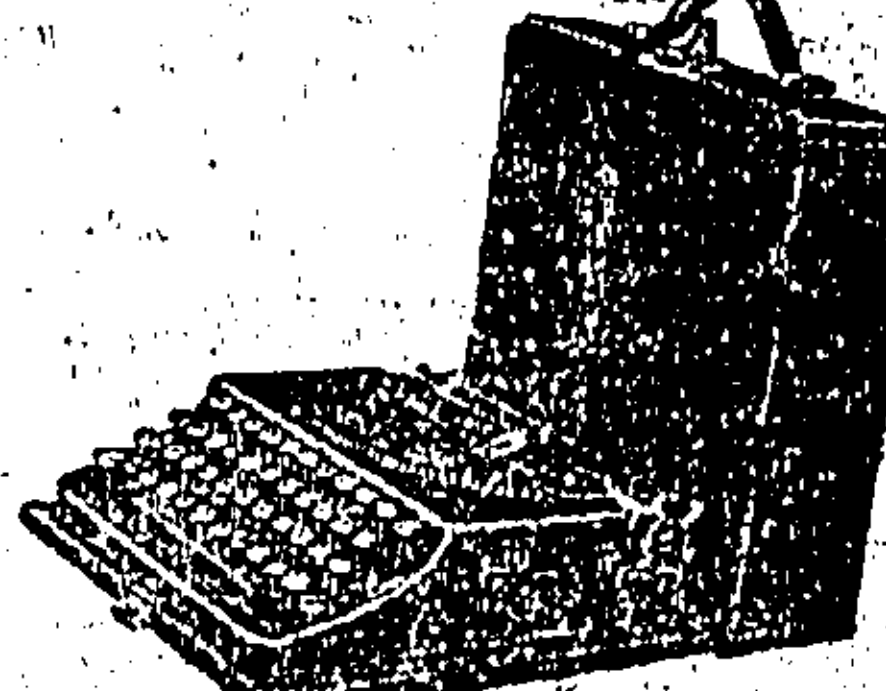
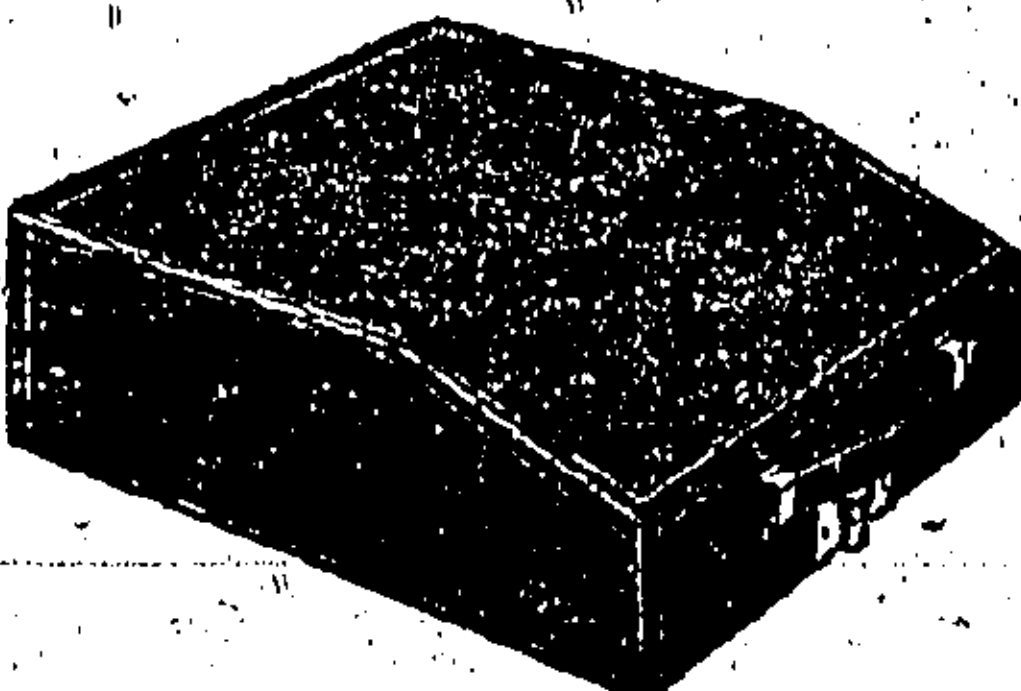
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